Lyngarth's Uninvited Guests, a Sneaky "Good-for-Nothing" Catgirl, and Sage's Romantic Dilemma

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Lyngarth's Uninvited Guests, a Sneaky "Good-for-Nothing" Catgirl, and Sage's Romantic Dilemma

by lefemmerouge

Summary

After Sage playfully kisses her friend, Rosemary, also a guardian-in-training at Lyngarth's High Guardian Academy like her, Rose realizes that she has romantic feelings for her. When Rose is about to ask Sage if she likes her back, they find two young women, Luz and Amity, on the streets of Lyngarth. These women claim they came through a portal to find a catgirl and somehow ended up there. These young women disrupt Sage and Rose's day plans, while leaving them with more questions than answers about why, and how, they arrived in Lyngarth in the first place. Later, after Sage learns that people can be in a relationship with more than one person at a time, she begins to question herself and her place in the world, thinking about what she means to Rose, Snapdragon, and everyone else in her life.

Notes

Happy May 4th. When seeing the prompt by DespairSystem, on a certain site, with no rating listed, no category, for "Any fandom, any ship (can use it for polyships)" with the prompt being "cats", I immediately thought of this fic. Apart from the fact that I have already posted the continuation for this fic on here ("Adora's Big Announcement and Unexpected Visitors to Bright Moon") (listed in the inspirations), one major reason pushed me toward this fic: it had eleven uses of the word "catgirl" and sixteen uses of the word "cat." In my notes, in my spreadsheet, listing all the fics I'd like to publish I said that "No changes [are] needed, apart from maybe making it even more gay" (I later added the words "add more about cats and catgirls"). That is exactly what this fic does. It expanded from the original 6,331 words to 7,337 words (about a 15.9% increase), adding 1,006 words overall. The first draft added 102 words, a 1.6% increase, to 6,433 words, while changing the title to the present one from the original title "Lyngarth's Uninvited Guests and Sage's Romantic Dilemma."

I also changed the scene about pancakes and Luz per the comment one user made on the original version of this fic (see the below paragraph), with revisions to that effect on March 24th. I further revised it again, on May 4th, prior to publication.

I came back to this fic on April 5th, after visiting cherry blossom/sakura trees near me the day before, and beginning to watch/board a cat (a torti), deciding to post this, rather than any of the other fics I had planned. At that time, I expanded the fic by improving the summary and adding new text, plus dividers in the text to indicate scenes of sorts, and much more to make this fic even stronger, and better, than the original in so many ways. If you don't know these fandoms, that's fine, as that will not take away from your enjoyment of this fic.

This story is set after the last episode of High Guardian Spice (HGS) and sometime after the last episodes of "The Owl House." I wrote it, back in the original A/N, that because there wasn't, at the time, that many fics for this cute, wholesome animation (referring to HGS) out there and because I felt then, and still feel, that this would be a good crossover. I had been working on it for a week and kept it together, despite issues from AO3, losing parts of previous versions of this fic, noting that I "kept persevering until this fic was finished." In that A/N, I said "I hope you enjoy this story and please let me know what you think and if there are any other series you think would be good to crossover with High Guardian Spice. I have some ideas of my own, like making this story into the beginning of a series of fics focused on High Guardian Spice, but I'd like to hear your thoughts." Also, I saved a copy of this fic on the Internet Archive.

As always, comments, and concrit, are welcome and appreciated.

See the end of the work for more notes

- Inspired by Adora's Big Announcement and Unexpected Visitors to Bright Moon by lefemmerouge
- Inspired by Lyngarth's Uninvited Guests and Sage's Romantic Dilemma by lefemmerouge

The blue-haired woman yawned. Her pink-haired friend lay in the bed next to her. She had been snoring up a storm. She gingerly lifted the covers, got up, and moved the window curtain aside. She threw open the window, causing the breeze to begin flowing into the room. She could see, from the upper level of her cousin's apartment house and onto the street below. She happily jumped up and down, without doing that happy dance and twirl that some blond-haired Japanese girl did when she enjoyed herself, a girl she never even knew about. Shaking the bed, she said, as loudly as she could, "Rose, get up! Let's explore around Lyngarth, together!"

Rose's eyes slowly opened. She groused. She wanted to sleep. She didn't want to get up. She'd rather enjoy having the sun beat down on her pale-skinned face and feel its warmth. It felt so nice. She told her friend, "Sage, just...let me sleep for a little while longer...only five more minutes!" Sage shook her head. She wouldn't take no for an answer. She pulled up the sheet and stared into Rose's bluish eyes. "If you get up, I'll give you a morning kiss," she declared. Rose wasn't sure what to make of that declaration. Sage had never made such an offer in the past, from what she could remember. *Was she serious?* She wanted to see if her friend was bluffing.

"Fine," she said, and shuffled out of bed. Sage came in closer. She whispered "here's for being such a good friend to me." She then gave Rose a peck on her cheek. Rose was stunned. *What in the world* was that? Her face became reddish and felt warm. *What was this emotion she was feeling? Was it love?* It didn't seem right for her to have all these emotions all by herself. She wanted (and maybe even needed) Sage to feel the same way.

"Here, for being so nice to me," she said. She then did the same as her friend had done to her: she gave her a kiss on the cheek. This was something Sage had not anticipated. She didn't know what to think of this. She'd never expected it.

In a case of very bad timing, Anise happened to enter at that very moment. She joked with them. "So...you two have some morning kissing ritual now or something?" While Sage was too embarrassed to answer, Rose decided to reply instead. She chuckled. She tried to justify it in the best way she knew how, which was not very well. "We're just showing our friendship to each other...It's just what *friends* do."

Anise gave her a side-eye. She knew what Rose was trying to do here. However, she didn't want to make this any more awkward. She had no business prying into other people's relationships. "Sure, sweetie," she said, then adding, "breakfast is ready! It's pancakes with strawberries." Sage excitedly ran out of the room, pulling Rose behind her. Her worries

about whether she loved Rose or not melted away into nothing. None of that mattered now. She put it in the back of her mind. Sage was her friend and she would always stand by her, no matter what. "Hey, girls," Aloe said, holding a plate with a stack of pancakes.

Rose was amazed. How could she make that many pancakes and...with magic? "Dig in!" Aloe declared. Rose grabbed a stack of pancakes. Sage let the pancakes come to her. While Rose would have scarfed down her food, Sage was leading the change, this time, unlike when they first came to Lyngarth, the day before they both began at High Guardian Academy. So, she decided to eat a little slower this time. Sage was someone who liked to savor every bite of food and enjoy it. Maybe she got some of that from her training with old magic or something else entirely. Some would have called her a slow eater, but those opinions didn't matter to her. She love food and everything that went into it.

Pulling rose out of her chair, Sage exclaimed, "Rose, let's go!", with her left hand firmly gripping her friend's right hand. She waved to Sage's cousins. "Bye Auntie Aloe, Auntie Anise!" While they weren't *technically* her cousins, she treated them as such. They were fine with that. In unison, they said, "be safe out there! Don't get yourself into trouble!" Today was a rare day off for Sage and Rose. The academy remained under lock and key, and a strict lockdown. Less than a week before, the academy had been attacked by Mandrake and Olive. Repairs continued slowly. The professors kept debating how best to improve school security to ensure something like this would never happen again.

Rose decided it was the right time and place to ask Sage about the cheek kiss earlier that morning. "Sage, do you like..." About to finish that thought, they both heard screaming from the townsfolk. Sage went running ahead, with Rose at her side. They were guardians, or guardians-in-training to be exact, so they had to be on hand to solve any problems, at least in Lyngarth. There were two young women, who couldn't be older than 14, lying in the cobblestone streets, appearing to be unconscious. One of them had brownish-purple short hair in a pixie cut, which reminded Rose a little of Sage (at least when it came to the haircut). The other, next to her, had mostly lilac hair with some brown parts.

Sage made an announcement to the crowd, which had gathered around the two women. She wanted them to disperse: "As a future guardian, me and my friend, Rosemary, will take care of this, I promise."

Those in the crowd listened to her and left, feeling confident that these girls could solve the problem. The last thing they'd want would be to anger any guardians, even future ones. The city was a melting pot of sorts with elves, witches, humans, centaurs, tieflings, satyrs, and other sentient animals. The magic academy was at the center, with its regal

classical front, and a pentagon of connected buildings surrounding a center quad. The school had secret underground passageways and tunnels that only few in town knew about. Only those who had been at the academy were aware of them. The townsfolk had only heard stories about these tunnels.

Rose and Sage pulled the young women into the garden where they had seen the Trixies the first day they were in Lyngarth all that time ago. Sage and Rose were exhausted. The two women were remained unconscious. Rose spoke to Sage softly, saying "let's go through their bag." Sage remained firm. She wasn't sure what they were dealing with here. Were these two strangers harmless? They weren't sure. Perhaps they were. On the other hand, they were a little suspicious. Sage wanted to be cautious. She did not want to take a risk, not on something as important as this. It could be bad. "I don't believe that's a good idea. You should get Anise and Aloe. They might be able to help."

Realizing that her friend was right, Rose nodded. What she was saying was sensible. As she left, Sage said, "come back soon! I don't want to be here alone!" Rose smiled back. She snickered. "You got it, *tiger*." In a soft, soothing voice, she responded. She said two words: "my hero." Rose almost blushed as she walked back toward Anise and Aloe's apartment, hoping they'd be able to help with this situation.

As for Sage, she yawned but stayed alert. She saw each of the women open their eyes, although they were still a bit disoriented. The woman with hazel eyes stared at Sage. "Hey, lady, where are we?" she asked. Sage didn't answer the question. Instead, she described what she and Rose had done for her. She said triumphantly, "we saved you from the street, you were there with your...*friend*?"

The woman chuckled weakly. Even in *this world*, people thought they were friends, apparently? She didn't like that. It really annoyed her. She had to clear this up, immediately.

"Nah, Amity is...my girlfriend." Sage was surprised to hear that. The reason was simple. She didn't know that many women, personally, with girlfriends, apart from her two married cousins. Surely, there were some people at the academy like that. However, she mostly stayed around Rose, Parsley, and Thyme. That meant that people like these two women, in romantic relationships with one another, weren't in her friend circle.

"Oh...okay," she said, softly. She wanted to learn this woman's name. It could be important to identify her especially if she had gotten separated from her family or something. That was her thought at first. "And...your name is?" she asked. The woman stared at her dumbly for a second, as she processed the question. She wasn't always the best around new people. "I'm Luz," she said.

She stared in awe at Sage's hair. She'd never seen someone with hair that blue ever, not even anyone at Hexside. She had to say something! She couldn't stop herself. "Miss...your hair is very pretty," she blurted out, without a second thought. Sage laughed and snorted. Luz was a *funny one*, for sure. "Thanks, Luz...I'm Sage by the way. What brings you through these parts?...and why in the world were you in the street of all places?" Amity stretched and hugged Luz tightly. She'd protect her from anything. Although she was coming to her senses, she didn't mind answering the question. "We were searching for a...uh...catgirl...you see, we saw this show..."

Then Luz chimed in, chuckling nervously. She wanted to tell the rest of the story. "So, this portal threw us into the cobblestones and knocked us out cold."

Sage was processing all of this. A catgirl? A portal? Who were Luz and Amity? She still wasn't entirely sure. She remained a bit skeptical and whatever intentions they had for being in Lyngarth. She began to think of what she could say to these two women when Rose came running toward her. "Sage, I'm back! I brought Aunties Aloe and Anise to help us." Sage gave Rose a *they-are-my-cousins look*. She knew Rose meant well, but they weren't married like Aloe or Anise, so they weren't *her* cousins. So, when she called them aunties, it annoyed her. All four of them helped Luz and Amity. They walked back to Aloe and Anise's apartment house together. This wasn't how Sage or Rose wanted their day to go. Even so, they had a sense that these two women were special, somehow. They wanted answers as to why they had come to Lyngarth in the first place. What if other people arrived in portals from elsewhere?

In no time at all, they reached the apartment house. Anise and Aloe had been chatting with Luz and Amity along the way. Once inside, they told Luz and Amity that they'd need to carry their stuff up many flights of stairs, and sleep in the same part of the house as Sage and Rose. This annoyed Sage and Rose more than anything. They were used to being in the house *only* with Anise and Aloe and not with *any* other guests. They were willing to tolerate it for now, but not for a long period of time. After putting down their stuff in a room that Anise and Aloe created out of nothing, they entered the kitchen along with Sage and Rose. Aloe whipped up a brunch quickly, while Anise prepared the table.

"Sorry, we weren't expecting so many guests...at this time of day." Sage chuckled. She tried to make her cousin feel less nervous. She hoped it would help. "Don't worry about it Aunt Anise...today didn't go the way *we planned* either!" After Sage said this, Luz and Amity nervously stared at everyone in the room. They almost believed that they shouldn't be there and that they were intruding on something. That sense was not wrong. They were somewhat intruding.

At that very moment, Aloe walked in with a stack of pancakes. Rose grumbled. Hadn't they eaten the *same exact thing* for breakfast? Sage didn't mind. She always loved eating the pancakes which her cousins made. Luz and Amity were amazed. The latter had never seen pancakes before in her life. Luz chuckled. She had grown up in the suburbs before she traveled to the Boiling Isles by accident. Back then, she ate many different foods. Some mornings she had traditional Dominican foods that her mom prepared. Other times, she had pancakes topped with maple syrup, agave nectar, butter, or all of the above. She remembered those times fondly and how nice her mom had been with her every morning. She missed it. Amity had eaten more exquisite and fancy foods. After all, she was part of a very wealthy family which made its money from selling weapons and devices for home security, supporting their comfortable lifestyle. All of this made the family, through their business, Blight Industries, war profiteers of the highest order. Amity distanced herself from that. She wanted *nothing* to do with making weapons to kill others.

Luz pointed at the food in front of her. "I love these fluffy things!" She grabbed some from the plate in the middle of the table, spearing them with her fork, and then eating them ravenously. Aloe couldn't believe how this woman was acting. She was proud that she was liking her food. She was so glad that people liked to eat what she made. It brought a smile to her face. "Oh my dear, these pancakes are *special*. They were made by my beloved with...magic!" While this impressed Luz, Amity was envious. She could make food like this, with...*magic*? As a witch, she she could use fire, disintegrate objects, create a barrier cage, display images, or control plants, coupled with her athletic, drawing, and dancing abilities. She had never made food by using any magic spells. So, she was in awe. She wondered if Aloe could teach her sometime how to do it. She hoped she could. After all, they might be leaving Lyngarth soon.

Anise interjected, answering their questions easily, without any issue. "You might be asking how this is possible, right? Well, as Sage and Rose are already aware, my wife, Aloe, is an elf, so it's elven magic." They both nodded as they continued to chow down on their food. Sage happily did the same, while Rose sat there, getting more and more annoyed. She had wanted to explore the town with Sage. As she saw it, the uninvited visitors had ruined *her plans*! She could never say that out loud, though. She felt she had to keep these feelings inside, so she did her best to put on a happy face, hiding what she truly felt so she could be considerate to these two unexpected guests.

Sage could see the disappointment on her friend's face. She knew her very well. After all, they had both grown up in the same town and played together from the time they'd been little kids. She sensed why she felt this way. She thought of one grand gesture, something that she hoped would cheer her up, getting her out of that funk. She abruptly got up out of her chair and asked Rose to close her eyes. She agreed to do so.

Seeing that her friend's eyes were closed, she whispered to Anise, then Aloe, telling them to leave the room, and wait for her signal. She shuffled over to Amity and Luz, wanting to get their permission prior to her spell casting. They agreed, more than happy to help two lovers.

Rose had no clue what was happening. Sage took out her terrasphere. In an instant, it turned into a tall wooden staff, something which she continued to vibe with on a deep level. She then uttered the words "Somnus bene!"

Luz and Amity's eyes closed, they began to fall into a deep slumber, which would last for a while. Sage grabbed Rose's hand forcefully. She said cheerfully, "You can open your eyes now!"

Rose saw Luz and Amity on the other side of the table asleep. She was stunned. *What* had Sage done to them? As she stared up at Sage in utter surprise, she responded with a chuckle, and booped her on the nose.

"You silly, I did this, so we can go on a...uh...*date*...around the town." Rose was surprised that Sage would say that. In the past, she would never even utter the word "date," as it would be far too embarrassing for her. Sage had changed.

On the other hand, her face was still incredibly reddish. She was utterly humiliated by the whole thing. She was so flustered that she didn't give Anise and Aloe the signal to return. Believing that she had forgotten, as Rose and Sage approached the door, Anise came running and shouted, "have a good date...you *cuties*!" Aloe waved. Sage was too red-faced to answer her. Rose hollered back as loud as she could. "We will!"

As they walked down the steps, leaving the house, and onto the streets of Lyngarth, Sage fell into Rose's arms, her blue hair blowing in the breeze. Rose hugged her back. She was the best friend she could ask for or perhaps even something more. They were figuring that out, together. As they skipped and hopped down the street, Sage heard a familiar voice. She ignored it. She was on a date. She wouldn't let anything, or anyone, interfere with it. Rose snickered.

"I can't believe you did that...for me...Sage...it's so sweet." Sage was incredibly proud of herself. She was glad that she had made Rose happy and smiled back, her pale skin shining under the light. Staring at Sage nervously, Rose quickly scanned the area to make sure no one was watching. Then she remarked, softly, "can I...kiss you...Sage?...I've wanted to do this for so long." She understood if Sage said that she wasn't ready or told her that they were going too fast. She'd be willing to wait longer, if necessary, or for them to just remain friends and nothing more. But she couldn't hold her feelings back anymore. That wouldn't be fair to herself, nor fair to her friend. She had to know.

Sage came closer and said in a soft voice, "of course, my lovely Rosemary." They kissed each other on the lips. Just then, two other people happened to walk by and saw their lips locked with one another. These people were utterly dumbfounded. Were these two women together? They thought so. "Sage? Rose?" the voice remarked, unsure if she had identified them correctly or not. At that moment, each one of them stepped away from the other.

Sage knew exactly who it was. She believed she was vulnerable in this situation. When she tried to pull away, Rose held her hand tightly and searched for the origin of the voice: it was an orange-haired woman. She belted out, "Snapdragon...is that you?" She nodded. She did not want to make them nervous or anything. She tried to leave as Sage had tried to do earlier. Her purple-haired friend, Amaryllis, held her hand, trying to give her confidence.

"Snap...we aren't leaving...don't *you* have something to say to them?" she urged. Snap stared at her friend, completely shamefaced. She wasn't sure how to apologize. What could she say? What was the right thing to say? What do you even say in this situation. She kept wracking her brain. She decided to say something. She whispered in Sage's ear. "I'm sorry for...interrupting your date," she remarked.

Rose tried to diffuse the tension. She tried to redirect the conversation. "It's okay, Snap...you look so pretty...in that...dress." Snap was surprised to hear this from her. She never expected to get a compliment like that from Rose, of all people. She thought that Rose didn't like her. After all, Rose had taken a while to come around to her, maybe because of some jealousy. She smiled a little. Amaryllis shook her head at all of this.

"It’s only typical to run into you both...uh...kissing...while I'm shopping with Snap for dresses...she is so particular on what we are getting."

Rose was a little confused. Sage stared at her, just as bewildered, at least a little. Was *something* different? "She?" she uttered.

Snap breathed deeply. It was one of the first times someone had used that pronoun to describe her in public. "Yeah, I'm trying it out...it seems to be more of who I am...more than the one I used in the past to describe myself," Snap said.

Rose and Sage understood what Snap meant, although it might take some time for them to get used to these new pronouns. Sage twirled her hair with her hand and said, "...that dress is super cute."

Snap blushed in response while intensely looking at Sage. She always had some feelings for her, from the moment she heard her criticizing Amaryllis when she stood in front of the tree dying from the rot, although she wasn't always the best at expressing those feelings. Sage stared at

her lovingly. Amaryllis rolled her eyes. "Get a room, *you two*," she said. Rose, Sage, and Snap all focused their eyes on Amaryllis. She felt the pressure. They didn't like what she'd said.

"Fine, fine. I shouldn't have said that...I'm serious...you two should be together...I'm not gonna stand in the way of your love...especially with this poly thing, you know"

Rose scratched her head. What did she mean by that? What did a *poly thing* mean? "Uh, Amaryllis, you gotta explain what you mean. You can't just throw around words like that."

She huffed. She didn't believe she had to explain this to Rose. Wasn't she the daughter of a famous guardian? *Why* didn't she know about this? Maybe they should have a class in the academy about it.

"Polyamorous, as it's called. It's where you can be in a relationship with multiple people at once."

Sage was curious. She *wanted* to learn more. Why would she mention it? Amaryllis explained.

"Well...you see, Sage, you could be, I suppose, in a relationship with Rose, and with Snap at the same time." This caught Sage off guard. What was she saying? She said softly, "what?", *clearly shocked.*

Amaryllis threw up her hands. She didn't believe she was the one explaining it. She didn't really want to talk about it, but felt she had to. "If you need to talk to some people about it, just ask your cousins, or Professor Caraway...they *are all* in some sort of arrangement together...I have no idea how it works." She added that she was "unlike those people, a free woman, who isn't tied down to anyone. I guess I'm a free spirit of sorts."

Sage nodded. She gingerly approached Snap. She wasn't sure about this whole thing. "Snap...would you like to give this thing Amaryllis talked about...a try?" Snap was speechless. She wanted Sage *to herself*. She felt that she didn't have a deep connection to Rose for such a relationship to even be possible, even though such relationships didn't necessarily require everyone to love one another, as it could be constructed such a way to get around that, if needed. There was no "right" way or "wrong" way have such a relationship, apart from not being exploitative or abusive. She nervously replied, feeling that she had to say something, "I'll...think about it." She walked away, with her friend in tow. Sage was shaken by the whole thing. She liked Snap and she loved Rose. Was it possible to love two people *at once*? What if she loved one more than the other? These questions began swirling in her mind.

She needed to hear from Caraway, as perhaps, maybe, he would have answers. She hoped that would be the case. She marched up to the academy with her friend in tow, holding her hand tightly. Rose asked her, "where are we going?" Sage, more determined than ever, replied within seconds. She needed an answer. "We are going to talk to Professor Caraway...if Amaryllis is right, I gotta know."

Her friend shrugged her shoulders. This date *was not* following the path that either one of them had planned. Even so, she was willing to go along with it since she got to spend time with Sage. Why not spend more time with her?

Caraway stretched and complained. Today was the day he took his transition magic. He didn't want to do it at school. Rather, he liked taking it in the comfort of his own home, away from the pressures of the outside world, whether fellow teachers or students. He spotted a blue-haired woman approaching with increasing speed, grasping tightly onto the hand of a pink-haired woman. He didn't recognize them at first, until they came closer. It was Sage and Rose.

"What can I do for you?" he asked. He hoped this conversation would be short. He wanted to leave in peace, without being bothered, and take his transition magic. He had a strict schedule to take it and he considered himself a highly organized person. He didn't like being interrupted, not on these days at least. Sage was nervous. It would be hard to ask Caraway about it, but she had to. Her question came spilling out.

"Are you...uh...maybe...perhaps...in a relationship with my cousins Anise and Aloe?" Caraway chuckled. He knew this would be something that would take longer to explain than a simple answer. He wondered who had put this thought into her head. He wanted to answer her in such a way that she wouldn't come back to him asking more. So he started by answering her question. "Well...short answer is yes...the long answer is that it is...complicated," he began.

Rose and Sage listened intently as they followed beside him as he walked toward the Lyngarth market. He had to buy some ingredients for a fall rhubarb pie he was making for the teachers, thanking them for their demanding, strenuous work. He liked doing that sort of thing. He had become very good at baking over the years. He tried to explain it in terms they would understand.

"I like your cousins, Sage...but *not in a romantic way*. They are only my friends." He then explained that he didn't like either one of them in a romantic or sexual way, adding that "some people call what we have 'queerplatonic'. There is a deeper commitment than in usual friendships. We can, on rare occasions, be intimate with each other. That's just how it is."

Sage was wrapping her head around it. Rose connected to what Anise had said earlier at the fall processional. She hoped Caraway could answer her question. "Was that what Aun...Anise meant when she said that you, Aloe, and her go to the same parties?" Caraway nodded. He hoped this would be enough. He waved to them. "Well, this was a nice talk...I gotta get home and uh...do some *important things*...see you all later." Rose waved back. Sage was deep in thought until Rose jabbed her. She also waved. She had to sort out everything Caraway said and whether this "poly thing" that Amaryllis mentioned was something she wanted to try out or not.

Sage sighed. She had been thrilled about their date, at first. However, with everything Amaryllis and Caraway had told her, she began to question herself more than before. So much was happening and so fast. She made her thoughts clear to her friend. "I'm not sure I can do this anymore...Rose. I should just go back to my cousins...maybe I shouldn't be with anyone at all." Her pink-haired friend hugged her tightly. Tears began streaming down her face.

She didn't want to let her friend go. She wouldn't. "Sage, you are strong, the *toughest woman* I know. You can get through this. I will be by your side *all the way*." Sage rested her head on Rose's shoulder. She started becoming teary-eyed herself. She whispered in her friend's ear. "Thanks, Rose...I know I can always count on you no matter what...I feel much better now."

As they embraced, the voice of a familiar chirpy woman flowed into their ears. Accompanying her was a reddish-haired woman with green eyes. "Rosemary? Sage? Is that you?" the voice said.

The other woman shook her head and rolled her eyes. She then uttered, "Oh brother, they were about to kiss." Sage was red-faced. She was unsure what to say to them. Rose diffused the situation easily and without much trouble. She saw the two women holding hands and remarked, "so you two are on a date *too*? Parsley, I never believed you'd be dating Thyme...Parsyme for the win I guess."

Thyme put her head in her hands, with the brown skin sparkling in the light. She couldn't be more embarrassed. Parsley's little arms stretched around her friend, and she snickered. "Never a better thyme *to date* an elf girl!" Thyme wanted to make clear their relationship with her friend. She declared loudly, and enthusiastically, "Pars...she's my friend." Staring up at her, Parsley was disappointed. Her intense stare got to Thyme. She wouldn't be letting this go.

Thyme grumbled. "Fine...girlfriend...that's what Pars is," she said, while blushing, her brown cheeks turning a lighter brown.

This made Sage feel a little better about herself. If her two friends were dating, what was wrong with dating Rose? The answer was simple. *Nothing* was wrong with dating Rose.

She smiled. "I'm so happy for...both of you," she said. As they began to walk away, she had something to ask them both. What Amaryllis and Caraway had told her continued to rattle her. She wasn't completely sure what to make of it.

She asked innocently, "I...uh...have a friend...who wants to be in a relationship with two people at once...have you ever heard of that before?" Parsley shrugged her shoulders. When Thyme didn't do the same, everyone stared at her.

She added, "I...knew some people in the Fairy Woods...some cousins...who had multiple partners...it's *very common* among elves." Everyone paused for a second. What was Thyme saying? Why hadn't she mentioned this before? Parsley, Sage, and Rose chalked it up to the fact it had *never come up* as a part of conversation since her time in the Fairy Woods was still a bit of a mystery to all of them.

Parsley was intrigued by all of this. In contrast, Thyme remained a bit stunned. She was the *only* one of the four who had thought that Sage and Snap were good friends and nothing more. Parsley saw the attractions as clear cut. Sage did not hide her attraction to Rose nor to Snap. Almost out of nowhere, Rose then said, "I mean...what if Thyme was dating Amaryllis and Parsley at the same time...that would be wild, right?" and sheepishly chuckled.

This caused the red-haired woman to blush even more than before, covering her brown-skinned cheeks. Dating Amaryllis and Parsley...at the same time? What was *this foolishness*? Why would Rose even say *that*?

To everyone's surprise, she said, "I'll...uh...think about it." She held onto Parsley's hand tightly as they walked away. Rose was *shocked*. Was Thyme serious about this? Would she date Amaryllis too?

"I was only joking!" she shouted. Her words were ignored. Thyme acted like Rose had said nothing at all. Even so, the offhand suggestion by Rose had given her *a lot* to think about.

Sage usually could talk to this many people, but she began experiencing some social exhaustion. She was worried about these two women, Luz, and Amity, who had appeared out of nowhere. She wasn't sure who they were and why they were in Lyngarth, truly. She believed their story that they arrived there through a portal and were searching for a catgirl. It seemed possible.

Even so, she was wary about them. After all, Olive had spied on them for all that time, then revealed herself to be an agent of the Triumverate. After all of that, she had turned the whole town to stone! She continued to hold her responsible for all of it. "Rose, I'd like to go back to my cousin's place...I am all tapped out." She understood, although it made her a little sad. She wanted to keep their date going. Despite that, she also did not want to push it or force anything. She nodded. "Sure, Sage, we can do that." They walked solemnly back to the house. Both of them wished they could spend a fun day together without worries. Their woes were only beginning.

Back in the apartment house, Luz opened her eyes. Sitting on her bed, she saw a cute black cat in front of her. The cat didn't notice her. When it did, it attempted to scamper away. She jumped toward it, holding it close, as it continued to squirm. As the cat tried to scratch her, she held it at arm's length. Once she began petting its back and soft underbelly, it calmed down. "Amity, look at this cute black cat I found!"

She got up quickly and saw Luz holding the cat. She began brushing the cat as well, which purred in glee. She was enjoying herself, sharing a part of herself she let few know about. "Thanks, Luz, for doing this for me...I don't tell many others that I like cats...or even catgirls." Luz grinned. She chuckled and added, "that's what girlfriends are for, right?" Due to the euphoria the cat was experiencing, it had *completely forgotten* why it had come there.

Anise and Aloe had left the house on some daily errands, meaning that when Rose and Sage entered, no one was around. Searching every room, they found no one until they climbed the stairs of the apartment house, reaching the area where the bedrooms that Anise and Aloe had created for them and for Luz and Amity. Gingerly knocking on the doorframe, Sage asked, "Can we come in?"

Luz she gave her a thumbs up. Sage had no clue what this strange expression meant. She guessed it was a sign of agreement.

As she entered the room, Rose saw the cat at once and rushed onto the floor to comfort it. "What a cute kittie!" she loudly declared. The cat suddenly moved away from Luz and Amity, then came toward Rose. It began licking her hand. Rose giggled. "Ew, that tickles, I don't need to feel your sandpapery tongue!" As the cat continued to lick, going further up her arm, Rose backed up. She did not want this kind of attention. The cat stopped. It sensed her expression and her hesitancy. There was a flash of light. The black cat had transformed into a catgirl named Olive.

She huffed and declared, "Fine, Rosemary, I guess you don't like me. You're *missing out*." Luz and Amity were taken aback. Sage quickly pulled out her terrasphere. Rose was still in a bit of shock before pulling

out her sword, Flowering Thorn. They cornered Olive. She couldn't win this battle. "Why are you here, you damn good-for-nothing catgirl?" Rose said, while snarling at her.

Olive cowered, her body shaking in fear. Tears began forming in her eyes. How could they be this mean to her? She had taken the risk! She had stabbed that sadistic jerk, Mandrake, stopping him from any further harm. She collected herself quickly and lashed out. "Come on...Rosemary! I dealt with shit from that fucking Smoke Face, a being I hope you never come across...ever. If I go back to the Triumverate, they will execute me on the spot!"

Rose did not expect this response from Olive. Sage decided to step in instead. She stamped her foot down and pointed her staff at Olive's head.

"Whatever...stop with your damn theatrics. Just tell us why you are here!" Being in a situation like this was *not good* for Olive. She would like nothing better than to leave as soon as she could. She decided to tell them the truth.

"If you must know," she began, "I broke out of my jail cell, beat up a few guards, and ran away here, thinking I could ask for your help." Rose nervously chuckled. Was Olive serious? *Could they trust her?* Rose pointed her sword at Olive's neck. She would not yield. Sage touched Rose's shoulder and shook her head. Rose understood. She put her sword away while she stood in a menacing pose over her. Luz and Amity were in shock. They were not sure what to do and they tried to slink away. They wanted to get out of this situation. They felt it wasn't right to be involved. Rose and Sage could deal with this instead, right? This wasn't their fight.

Rose was very annoyed. She did not want to create a conflict between herself and Sage. "Fine, Olive...what do you want *us* to do?" Olive didn't want to make this request. She had no other options. No one else was on her side.

She said meekly, "uh, can you...hide me or something? If I went back to Witch Country that would... mean death." Rose scratched her chin. Sage shook her head and sighed.

She trusted Olive even less than Luz and Amity, who she had come around. She said her opinion plainly. "You can't stay here."

This comment surprised even Rose. Wasn't Sage the one who was supposed to be smart, kind, and always excited about learning? Sage explained what she meant before Rose could clarify anything.

"If you stay, Olive, my cousins will throw a fit...they won't like it...they aren't...people who like...catgirls."

Luz decided that this was her opportunity to enter the conversation. She giggled. She delightfully offered a solution, "why doesn't she just come with me and Amity back to the Boiling Isles? She can be far away...from the evil people of this world...she would be protected." Amity tried to keep a lid on her emotions. If this happened, she would be the happiest woman in the world, due to her *secret love of catgirls*, something she had only shared with Luz.

Sage and Rose stared at each other. Without saying anything, they realized that Luz's proposal was their best choice. If Olive stayed in the house, then the Triumverate could hurt Anise, Aloe, and everyone else in Lyngarth. Such an attack would likely be much worse than the attack on the academy. She had to do what she could to protect her friend, who she loved, and her cousins. Sage spoke on behalf of herself and Rose.

"So, Luz and Amity, you can take her with you...she'll be safer where you are than...here...I'd say."

Luz hugged Sage and grinned. She couldn't be more fortunate. Amity felt the same way. "You won't regret this!" Luz said, enthusiastically.

Olive wanted to make a splash. Her showmanship could be useful again. This would be a goodbye present of sorts. She bowed. She pulled a piece of paper out of her pocket and outstretched her arm to Rose.

Closing her eyes, she said a few simple words. "Rosemary, this letter tells you everything I know about the Triumverate...and other matters...read it when you are ready. I hope it helps."

Rose snatched the paper from Olive and stuffed it in her pocket. Luz pressed the PORTAL button of her Catgirl remote which she had in her hand. She typed in the word "HOME," and an interdimensional gateway opened. Luz waved goodbye. Amity shouted, "thank you both so much for your hospitality." Rose hollered back, "it was nice to meet you, Amity and Luz! Come back any time!"

The portal closed, in an instant. They were gone. Although Sage had been curious about Luz and Amity at first, she felt relieved. Rose on the other hand was sad. She wanted them to stay a little longer. She thought that Luz and Amity could be good friends for herself and Rose. If only they just had more time together. Seeing that her friend was this morose, she suggested they take sun naps together. Rose smiled. She said, "I would love that."

As they sat in the sunlight, side by side, the letter from Olive was *still* in her pocket. This letter contained not only the truth about the Triumverate, but about Lavender, something which would probably shake Rose to the core. She wasn't in the mood to read it now, but she would

be, at some point. She had to wait for when she was ready to hear some hard truths. For now, she wanted to enjoy herself and this time she was spending with Sage.

Olive scratched her head. She wondered where the heck she was. She had reverted to her black cat form. The room was ornate and elaborate. It was unlike anything she had ever seen. A lilac-haired woman yawned. Only a few seconds later, she came close to Olive and petted her on the head, whispering "welcome to your new home, Olive. You'll have a lot of fun here."

She rubbed against the woman's leg, purring loudly. She couldn't be more glad. She finally had somewhere to stay away from the Triumverate. This euphoria would not last. The woman checked an archaic device, which beeped with a message. "It's my girlfriend, I'm *so excited*! I have a present for her!" She spoke softly to Olive and stuck a needle in her neck, causing her to go into a state of sleep.

What seemed like only moments later, Olive re-opened her eyes, finding herself in front of a large white brick house with a blue roof, and stained glass above the door which had the appearance like a huge orange eye of a demon. "Amity," another woman cried out, "she's waking up!" Amity was giddy. She held Olive in her hands.

"Here, Luz, this is my present to you...for being such *a cool girlfriend*."

She was enthralled. A black cat that could be her animal companion! Sure, there was King, but he was only a housemate and a friend. He wasn't a companion. Not at all.

The cat could like her palisman that witches often had. She suddenly noticed something familiar. "Uh, Amity, I think this is...Olive." Amity cackled. Luz had a straight face. *How could she forget?* She admitted that Luz was right. Somehow it has slipped her mind for a second. Oops. It came back to her. She wasn't sure why she had forgotten. Had something happened to her? She wasn't sure.

"You are right, it's Olive...I thought she might help you more than me." Luz snickered.

She was glad her girlfriend was this thoughtful, but it really was too much. She didn't need a present. Not like this. "Amity, you keep her...she can be your companion." Twirling her hair nervously, Amity breathed deeply. Sure, she had already told Luz that she liked catgirls, but she wanted to connect with her more. She wanted them to be even closer than they were already.

She wanted to deepen their relationship. "I'm sorry if it's weird that I kinda like...catgirls…I don't want to humiliate you or anything.”

Luz was overjoyed. They had yet another thing in common! She hugged Amity and kissed her on the cheek, then remarked, "It's definitely not weird...I'd never ever be embarrassed of you...as I said before, us weirdos stick together."

As Amity and Luz embraced, Olive transformed back into her catgirl form. With each one of them holding her arms, they showed her something amazing. She now saw a place unlike anything she had ever seen. "Welcome to the Boiling Isles!" they said in unison. Olive would be a companion not just for Amity but for Luz too. Olive's new life was beginning. She was excited for what was in store for her and to explore a new place, with their help.

Although there were still enemies which threatened the Boiling Isles and High Guardian Academy, the lives of Luz, Amity, Rose, and Sage seemed to be in order, or so they thought. What came next would be up to them...

End Notes

For this story, I used multiple sources, whether from the creator of the show, Raye Rodriguez, or the fandom sites for The Owl House and to a lesser extent the one for High Guardian Spice. Rodriguez stated that it is open to interpretation if Anise, Aloe, and Caraway are friends or something more, so with this story, I decided to go with the former, rather than the latter, while not directly tagging them in the story as per the guidelines for a certain site which say in response to a question " What about F/F/M polyamory?": "This rule may change in the future, but for now I think it's cool if you think it fits the theme [here]...Ideally, works of this type should include an equal focus on the female characters as well as the male ones, but I won't be checking for this or removing things or anything. It's just a spirit I hope you'll follow." So I'm interpreting that, in this case, to not tag the relationship, partially because it isn't a major part of this story, but also because there isn't necessarily an equal focus on the female characters, as Caraway is the *only one* who talks about the possible QPR (queerplatonic relationship) with Anise and Aloe. Also, Anise, Aloe, and Caraway aren't actually in a polyamorous relationship in this fic.

Anyway, some may see Anise, Aloe, and Caraway in a poly relationship of some kind, and if they do, that's a totally fine interpretation as well. I would have included even more characters, but I didn't know where to fit in the other professors, Slime Boy, Parnelle, and so on. In this fic, I use she/her pronouns for Snap, but the pronouns that Sage would use after episode 12 can be interpreted in any way possible, meaning you could use they/them or any neopronouns instead.

The original version of this fic was published on AO3 in mid-November of 2021, where it garnered 677 hits (as of this A/N), 69 kudos, and a rash of comments, calling the fic "ambitious," good but asserting that it wasn't believable that Luz had never eaten pancakes before because it "wouldn't be feasible for her to only ever eat traditional Dominican cousine, nor is that a thing any Dominican family does even in the Republic," great, and asking for a RWBY/High Guardian Spice crossover next. At the time, in 2023, I said "since RWBY is in a hiatus after the two films, I'm definitely down to a HGS / RWBY crossover. I just have to post some fics I've kept as drafts first" (I said something similar when I cross-posted the fic on here). In the over two years since then, that has not happened, but if I have time, I'd love to write one. Otherwise, the original version was cross-posted on here (listed in the inspirations) (has 24 hits) and Wattpad (has 37 hits). Strangely, I never cross-posted it on Quotev (not sure why). This fic is also listed, on Squidge World and AO3, as an inspiration for the fic "Wyverna Dretch, Archives on the Dimensional Plane, and Typical Drudgery," as that story is set after this one. I would love to post that fic

on here at some point in the future, although I can't say exactly when that would occur. The original fic on AO3 still remains the first-ever fic for the Rose/Sage romantic pairing (for which over 20 fics have been written).

This fic originally posted on Sunset, a femslash fanfic site. However, it was removed when I was sadly perma-banned for mishandling interactions with a few users, despite apologizing to those users, removing certain passages of fics, and apologizing to the Sunset admin (and others). As such, I would strongly recommend **against** *anyone* joining that site, or Superlove. Both admins (Melo/Kat for Superlove, Agnes for Sunset) are friends with each other. Those admins are very particular and not in a good way. I find the whole circumstance deeply unfortunate. I wish it could have been resolved a much better way.

I dud not want this fic to be lost. I have not included some tags I had on Sunset (like Sunset's Femslash Refresh 2026, Exclusive to Sunset, Prompt Fill, Sleep Intimacy, and Romantic Attraction), but others have been retained. On Sunset, this fic was listed as part of one series: "My Femslash Refresh 2026 Collection".

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!